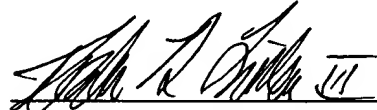


Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 7/27/2002



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Insertions are underlined, deletions are stricken

In the specification:

Please delete paragraph 16.

Please replace paragraph 26 with the following paragraph:

[0026] The knowledge base can take the form of raw data collected from one or more different sources or the data can be processed into an engineered knowledge base in a variety of different ways. One type of processing is to filter the raw data through an excluded words database and to eliminate all redundant entries. Such an engineered knowledge base will be faster and more efficiently used in the context of the present invention than a knowledge base of raw data. Another type of knowledge base can be made up of a classification or taxonomy schema only. The classification schema will typically include a set of classifications and a description of the ~~classification~~ classifications possible, including some examples. The description can be compared by the classification engine against attribute values of the item to be classified. The classification schema can also be engineered to optimize efficiency or accuracy as discussed above. A further kind of knowledge base is a knowledge base of an alternate classification system. Such a knowledge base can have a set of classifications according to the schema that is to be applied reference to an alternative classification system against which the source content has already been applied, such as UNSPSC. This knowledge base allows items to be classified using an existing classification as discussed above and can be engineered just as the others can.

Please replace paragraph 30 with the following paragraph:

[0030] In one embodiment, the search engine operates as shown in Figure 2. The search engine begins by performing a proximity query which will try to find an exact match of the search string within the database 21. Each record within the database is tested against the search string to find records that contain all of the search terms in proximity to each other. The highest quality match will be a record in which all terms appear in the same order as the search string. A lower quality match will have the terms in a different order, or may have the terms separated by other strings. ~~The proximity query function.~~

Please replace paragraph 34 with the following paragraph:

[0034] As shown in block 108, the next search algorithm in the sequence is preferably a fuzzy logic query. In this context, a fuzz-logic ~~fuzz-logic~~ algorithm may also be known in the art as a “word wheel” or other name associated with an algorithm for testing combinations and permutations of the alphanumeric characters in the search string. For example, a user who enters a search string having a typographical error will not generally find an exact match within the database, but a fuzzy logic algorithm may select the desired product on the basis of similarity with the search string.

In the claims:

Please amend the following claim:

33. (Amended) The method of claim ? 32 wherein the engineered knowledge base of a classification schema contains a plurality of item classifications mapped to a second classification schema.